

## **Presenter Biographies**

**(In alphabetic order with last names)**



**Jen Alspach, Director**  
**Environmental Protection Office**  
**Cocopah Indian Tribe**  
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Jen received her Bachelor of Science degree in earth sciences from Duke University and her Master of Science degree in atmospheric sciences from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. She grew up in Yuma, Arizona and began her position as Cocopah EPO Director in May 2020. She manages Cocopah's environmental programs and provides outreach to the Cocopah community.



**Al Brown**  
**Senior Lecturer**  
**ASU Fulton Schools of Engineering**  
**The Polytechnic School, Environmental & Resource Management**

Al's 40+ years of experience spans multiple environmental management programs including air quality, water, wastewater, solid waste, vector control, emergency management and general environmental health. During his ten years as Director of the Maricopa County Environmental Services Department, he directed the planning, organizing, and evaluation of a major government agency's programs for air and water quality, food safety, wastewater management, vector control, recreational water quality, emergency management and disease control. As a Senior Lecturer for the Arizona State University, Fulton Schools of Engineering, Al teaches university undergraduate and graduate level courses in environmental management, environmental health, environmental law, sustainability, environmental leadership, solid and hazardous waste management, soils and groundwater remediation and air pollution control. Al also trains environmental professionals in emergency management, hazardous waste operations and emergency response, hazard communication, and air pollution control. His research interests include emergency management, hazardous materials remediation, water pollution control, drinking water safety, and occupational health and safety. Al is actively involved with Arizona environmental agencies and professional organizations as an advisor. Al is the President of Brown Environmental Consulting where he provides expertise to clients seeking environmental health and safety compliance assistance.



**Jodi R Davenport**  
**Tribal Health Department**  
**Environmental Health Specialist**  
**Post Office Box 147**  
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Started with Gila River Indian Community Sacaton AZ in Sept 2012, Jodi has been with Tribal Health Department - Environmental Health for about 9 years. She serves as Environmental Health Specialist and manages the community's bed bug programs. She conducts weekly bed bug heat treatments to the homes of disable/elderly, and provides bed bug education and outreach to the community members.



**Africa Dorame-Avalos**  
**Pesticide Program Manager**  
**Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc.**  
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Africa Dorame-Avalos is the Pesticide Program Manager for the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. She has worked in the Public Health/Environmental fields for the past twenty years. In 2001, she started her career with the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, Environmental Department as the Environmental Assistance and then promoted to Environmental Director from 2003-2005, as well as the Public Health Bio Terrorism Coordinator from 2005-2006. She was instrumental in obtaining funds to implement a Tribal Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Mitigation Plan and establish the Tribe's Emergency Preparedness Program.

In 2006, she accepted a position with the Arizona Department of Health Services as the Tribal Public Health Preparedness Coordinator and Tribal Liaison under the Bureau of Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response. In that capacity, she provided technical assistance and oversight to Arizona Tribes in the development and implementation of their Tribal Public Health Emergency Plans. She ensured that tribes participated in exercises and collaborated efforts with county and state partners in the development of a statewide Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Mass Vaccination Plan.

In late 2008, she accepted the position with the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Pesticide Program. In her current capacity, she manages and administers the ITCA Pesticide Enforcement and Worker Safety Program. She provides technical assistance, outreach and training to tribal staff in Pesticide Safety, Worker Protection Standard, and Integrated Pest Management Practices. She is an EPA, Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) Inspector that provides inspection services to tribes that have agreements with ITCA and ensures pesticide applicators comply with FIFRA and/or tribal regulations.

Africa is fluent in both English and Spanish, therefore provides WPS/Pesticide Safety training to workers and handlers of agricultural establishments on tribal lands, and provides translation services when needed to the Tribes when conducting WPS inspections or providing outreach materials to community members or the migrant community.



**Dawn H. Gouge, PhD**  
**Professor and Specialist**  
**Department of Entomology, University of Arizona**  
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Public health entomology professor, and integrated pest management (IPM) specialist working for the University of Arizona.

Applied research efforts include ecological studies aimed at reducing risks associated with pests of medical significance. Studies include venomous, disease vectors, and none vector blood-feeding bed bugs.



**Shujuan (Lucy) Li, PhD**  
**Associate in Extension, Public Health IPM**  
**Arizona Pest Management Center, Maricopa Agricultural Center**  
**Department of Entomology, University of Arizona**  
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Dr. Li coordinates the Public Health IPM Team, a multi-disciplinary group of extension and research faculty in the University of Arizona. The goal of the team is to develop and implement priority engaged research and extension programs on public health pests statewide. The Team focuses on vector control, tribal IPM, school and housing IPM, and food safety and wildlife.

Lucy's primary responsibilities include translational research studies focus on IPM, pest ecology and reduced-hazard management of public health pests and related priorities. She has extensive experience on IPM outreach, IPM implementation programs and long-term impact assessments in public schools and public housing.



**Shaku Nair, PhD**  
**Associate in Extension, Community IPM**  
**Arizona Pest Management Center**  
**University of Arizona - Maricopa Agricultural Center**  
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Dr. Nair coordinates the Community IPM Team, which is an interdisciplinary team of extension and research faculty, developing and implementing priority extension programs for sensitive environments statewide.

The Team is currently focused on School and Housing IPM, and their work involves implementation of IPM programs for indoor and outdoor environments. Specific extension activities include planning and coordinating training events, developing Extension publications and other outputs and outreach to clientele and other stakeholder groups such as school personnel, pest management professionals, turf

and landscape managers, public housing management teams, homeowners, Master Gardeners and others.